

## Text of Findings of Second Amenia Conference Held in New York, August 18-21

This conference was called to make a critical appraisal of the Negro's existing situation in American Society and to consider underlying principles for future action. Such criticism at this stage does not involve the offering of concrete programs for any organization for administrative guidance.

There has been no attempt to disparage the older Negro leadership. We appreciate its influence and contributions, but we feel that in a period in which economic, political, and social values are rapidly shifting, and the structure of organized society is being revamped, the leadership which is necessary is that which will integrate the special problems of the Negro within the larger issues facing the nation.

The primary problem is economic. Individual ownership, expressing itself through the control and exploitation of natural resources and industrial machinery has failed in the past to equalize consumption with production.

As a result of this failure the whole system of property and private profit is being called into question. The government is being forced to attempt an economic reorganization based upon a "co-partnership" between capital, labor and government itself. The government is attempting to augment consumption by increasing wages, shortening hours and controlling the labor and commodity markets. As a consumer the Negro has always had a low purchasing power as a result of his low wages coming from his inferior and restricted position in the labor market. If the government program fails to make full and equal provision for the Negro, it cannot be effective in restoring economic stability.

In the past there has been a greater exploitation of Negro labor than of any other section of the working class, manifesting itself particularly in lower wages, longer hours, excessive use of child labor and a higher proportion of women at work. Furthermore, there has been slight recognition by Negro labor or Negro leadership of the significance of this exploitation in the economic order. No technique or philosophy has been developed to change the historic status of Negro labor. Hence in the present government set-up there is grave danger that this historic status will be perpetuated. As a result the lower wages on the one hand will reduce the purchasing power of Negro labor and on the other be a constant threat to the standards and security of white labor.

The question then arises how far existing agencies working among and for Negroes are theoretically and structurally prepared to cope with this situation. It is the opinion of the conference that the welfare of white and black labor are one and inseparable and that the existing agencies working among and for Negroes have conspicuously failed in facing a necessary alignment of black and white labor.

It is impossible to make any permanent improvement in the status and security of white labor without making an identical improvement in the status and the security of Negro labor. The Negro worker must be made conscious of his relation to white labor and the white worker must be made conscious that the purposes of labor, immediate or ultimate cannot be achieved, without full participation by the Negro worker.

The traditional labor movement, based upon craft autonomy and separatism,

which is non-political in outlook and which centers its attention upon the control of jobs and wages for the minority of skilled white workers, is an ineffective agency for aligning white and black labor for the larger labor objectives.

These objectives can only be attained through a new labor movement. This movement must direct its immediate attention to the organizing of the great mass of workers both skilled and unskilled white and black. Its activities must be political as well as economic for the purpose of effecting such social legislation as old age pensions, unemployment insurance, the regulation of child and female labor, etc. These social reforms may go to the extent of change in the form of government itself. The conference sees three possibilities:

- (1) Fascism
- (2) Communism
- (3) Reformed Democracy

The conference is opposed to Fascism because it would crystalize the Negro's position at the bottom of the social structure.

Communism is impossible without a fundamental transformation in the psychology and the attitude of white workers on the race question and a change in the Negro's conception of himself as a worker. A Democracy that is attempting to reform itself is a fact which has to be reckoned with. In the process of reform, the interests of the Negro cannot be adequately safeguarded by white paternalism in government. It is absolutely indispensable that in this attempt of the government to control agriculture and industry, there be adequate Negro representation on all boards and field staffs.

While the accomplishment of these larger aims cannot be achieved except through the cooperation of white and black, the primary responsibility for the initiation, development and execution of this program rests upon the Negro himself. This is predicated upon the increased economic independence of the Negro. No matter what artificial class difference may seem to exist within the Negro group it must be recognized that all elements of the race must weld themselves together for the common welfare.

This point of view must be indoctrinated through the churches, educational institutions and other agencies working in behalf of the Negro. The first steps toward the rapprochement between the educated Negro and the Negro mass must be taken by the educated Negro himself. The Findings Committee recommends that the practical implications of this program be referred to a committee on continuation to be appointed by and at this conference.



## National Organizations - 1933

American Negro Congress.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
INQUIRER

# OCT 10 1933 NATIONAL ACTION BY NEGROES SEEN

Raymond P. Alexander  
Tells of Aims in Address  
at Southwest Y. M. C. A.

In speaking to a large group that attended the anniversary celebration of the Southwest branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, 1724 Christian st., Raymond Pace Alexander, local negro attorney, not only advocated an American Negro Congress, but said the day is not far off when such an organization will be established.

He said there are 12,000,000 negroes in this country, 5,000,000 of them being workers, and at least 2,000,000 negroes should join the organization. It will be patterned after the B'Nai Brith, which is known as the American Jewish Congress, and will follow the latter's principles. There are 4,000,000 Jews in this country and a half-million are members of the American Jewish Congress.

The organization is to be non-political, non-religious, non-fraternal and non-radical, he stated. It will be aggressive and progressive and of liberal thought. It will fight for better social, economic and political opportunities for negroes and will have an interracial understanding.

It will be the purpose of the Congress to form a united body of thought supported by the leading negro minds of the country on questions of national interest affecting the negroes' welfare in all vital matters.

### Will Study Legislation

Mr. Alexander told his audience that no legislation will be offered the United States Congress affecting price-fixing, regulation of crops, minimum wages, hours of labor, old age pensions or unemployment insurance without taking into prior consideration whether that particular legislation meets with the approval of the larger body of negroes, and if it is their thought and meets with their program.

It will also be the purpose of the organization to formulate a na-

ional program on all fundamental matters affecting the negro's status in social legislation, political representation, educational programs and industrial programs.

The new economic difficulties of the negro especially will be considered. They are current because of the refusal of many industries to give the negro worker, especially in the South, the benefit of the advantages of the codes.

National Organizations 1933

## Tailors Form New National Organization

RICHMOND, Va., August 24. --  
(By T. J. Loving for the ANP) --  
The General Association of Colored  
Designers and Garment Workers  
of America had its initial meet-  
ing at their headquarters, J. L.  
Loving's School of Tailoring, 18  
E. Leigh street, Richmond, Va., on  
August 14, 15, 16, with delegates  
representing 25 states and adopted  
a constitution, by-laws and  
elected the following officers:

Mr. Carey Wheaton, Richmond,  
Va., president general; Hugh T.  
Jackson, Newport News, Va., vice  
president general; Mrs. B. Bagley  
Earle, secretary general; H. G.  
Days, Palatka, Fla., assistant sec-  
retary general; J. L. Loving, Jr.,  
Richmond, treasurer general and a  
general committee composed of the  
following, Mr. R. S. Poole, Greens-  
boro, N. C., L. J. Grimes, Muskogee,  
Okla., and Arthur J. Harris, Phil-  
adelphia and James A. Jackson,  
Washington, D. C., economic advis-  
or.

The convention voted to hold its  
next annual convention at Hamp-  
ton Institute, Hampton, Va., on the  
second Monday in August, 1934.



## Elected By Postal Body For 5th Time



ROY O. WILHOIT

TOLEDO, Ohio, Aug. 24. — (AP) The National Alliance of Postal Employees, comprising in its membership the men of color in the Railway Mail and Classified Postal Services throughout the country, closed one of the most successful conventions in the history of the organization here, Friday, August 18, by wiring President Roosevelt their hearty support and endorsement in his NRA program.

### Officers Elected

Roy O. Wilhoit of St. Louis was reelected to his 5th term as president.

When the 1009 ballots mailed at Large Emory Bryant, Supt. M. L. Evans of the 15th R. M. S. district, Pittsburgh; W. T. Huntsman, Toledo, for president Roy O. Wilhoit as postmaster; Mayor H. Q. Thatcher and received 320, Joseph Brown, 239; Vice Mayor Hoover.

Other officers elected were: Jerry O. Gilliam, Norfolk, Va., other aspirants were defeated. The vice-president; Sidney M. Jackson, Washington, secretary and Mack D. Anderson of Memphis, Tenn., as editor of the Postal Alliance, the official organ of the body.

### To Fight For Asst. Post Master

The body went on record as being determined to continue their fight to have a Negro elevated to a post in the office of the first assistant postmaster-general. Jose Sherwood was endorsed for the place and Harry Basey of

Cleveland heads a committee whose job it will be to put it over. Emory A. Bryant in the Second Assistant's office is welfare man for the R. M. S. Branch, or was until March.

Plans were laid to combat efforts to block the promotion of Negroes to clerk-in-charge and other supervisory posts.

The reports of the secretary and treasurer revealed that the National Alliance of Postal Employees was in better financial condition than at any time since 1929, its total worth being at present \$35,171.74.

Toledo entertained the convention royally.

The 1935 meeting place will be Jacksonville, Fla. Mrs. A. W. Bryan of Atlanta was reelected president of the National Woman's Auxiliary.

## Re-elect Postal Head

**NAT'L. ALLIANCE OF POSTAL EMPLOYEES SUPPORT N. R. A. —FEDERAL OFFICIAL PRESENT —WILHOIT AGAIN PRESIDENT**

Toledo, O., Aug. 24, 1933. — The National Alliance of Postal Employees, comprising in its membership, the men of color in the Railway Mail and Classified Postal Services throughout the country, closed one of the most successful conventions in the history of the organization here, Friday, Aug. 18, by wiring President Roosevelt their hearty support and endorsement in his NRA program.

Postmaster General James A. Farley was represented at the gathering by Louis Brehm, director of Service Relations, of Washington, D. C., an official who has won the respect of the men because of his fair attitude. Other officials, federal and local, who brought greetings were Congressman Warren J. Duffy, Assistant Chief Clerk-

Large Emory Bryant, Supt. M. L. Evans of the 15th R. M. S. district, Pittsburgh; W. T. Huntsman, Toledo, for president Roy O. Wilhoit as postmaster; Mayor H. Q. Thatcher and received 320, Joseph Brown, 239; Vice Mayor Hoover.

Roy O. Wilhoit of St. Louis was reelected to his fifth term as president after a spirited campaign in which three other aspirants were defeated. The organization elects its officers by an unusual mail referendum, each member of the organization receiving a ballot and mailing it to the convention, where it is opened and counted. Other officers elected were: Jerry O. Gilliam, Norfolk, Va., vice president; Sidney M. Jackson, Washington, secretary, and Mack D. Anderson, of Memphis, Tenn., as editor of the Postal Alliance, the official organ of the body.

# ROY WILHOIT AGAIN HEADS NATIONAL POSTAL ALLIANCE

TOLEDO. — The National Alliance of Postal Employees, comprising in its membership, Negroes in the railway mail and classified postal service throughout the country, closed one of the most successful conventions in the history of the organization here, Friday, August 18, by wiring President Roosevelt its hearty support and endorsement in his NRA program.

Postmaster General James A. Farley was represented at the gathering by Louis Brehm, director of service relations, of Washington, D. C., an official who has won the respect of the men because of his fair attitude. Other officials, federal and local, who brought greetings were Congressman Warren J. Duffy, Assistant Chief Clerk-at-large Emory Bryant, Supt. M. L. Evans of the fifteenth R.M.S. district, Pittsburgh, W. T. Huntsman, Toledo, postmaster, Mayor H. Thatcher and Vice Mayor Hoover.

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Election of officers: Roy O. Wilhoit, St. Louis, reelected president, fifth term; Jerry O. Gilliam, Norfolk, reelected vice-president, second term; Sidney M. Jackson, Washington, reelected secretary, fifth term; R. E. L. Hutton, Oakland, Calif., reelected treasurer, fifth term; Mack D. Anderson, Memphis, elected editor of The Postal Alliance, to succeed Joseph B. Brown, St. Louis.

In the election of president 1009 ballots were mailed in to the election committee. Roy O. Wilhoit received 320, Joseph B. Brown, 248; Harold Pilgrim, Philadelphia, 239; Jose Sherwood, St. Paul, 200; Alonzo L. Glenn, Cleveland, 2 complimentary. Glenn was eliminated as he had not been a candidate, and Sherwood was dropped as low man. As no candidate had a majority of votes, the election was thrown on the floor of the convention. 64 delegates voting and giving Wilhoit 37 votes on the first ballots, insuring his election as president.

In the election of the editor, through the national poll Mack D. Anderson, Memphis, received 238 votes, and was topped by T. J. Flanagan, Atlanta, with 264, and Percy B. Hines, of the Chicago Defender, with the imposing total of 336. L. S. Headen received 106 and Trezzvant W. Anderson received 53. When this vote came to the floor of the convention Mack Anderson received 25 votes, Hines 23, Headen 9, and Flanagan 7. Mack D. Anderson

Important resolutions: That the Executive Committee be authorized to establish the office of full time welfare officer in Washington, D. C., combining this office with any other office as consistent regardless of a reasonable increase in budget.

Endorse Sherwood In this connection the candidacy of Jose Sherwood of St. Paul, Minn., for Chief Clerk at Large in the office of the First Assistant Postmaster General, to parallel Emory A. Bryant in the Second Assistant Postmaster General's office, was unanimously endorsed and a drive organized with Harry Basey of Cleveland at its head, to put this program over. Bryant, by virtue of his being in the Second Assistant Postmaster General's office, is welfare man for the Railway Mail Service, as was John D. Gainey, but the majority of the members of the Alliance come under the First Assistant Postmaster General and have no representative on the Board of Service Relations under Mr. Farley.

In a telegram to President Roosevelt, the Alliance said: "We, the officers and members of the National Alliance of Postal Employees, in seventh annual session assembled, at Toledo, Ohio, do hereby pledge our whole-hearted support in your efforts to bring about a National Recovery in the war against America's invisible foe, Depression. We fully realize that sacrifices must be patiently made and endured by the few, in order that benefits and relief from want and distress caused by unemployment may be reaped by the many, thus reestablishing the incalculable principles of our government. "United we succeed, divided we fail." We stand shoulder to shoulder with you to achieve speedy and permanent triumph over the enemy of civilization. To this end we again pledge and affirm our continued confidence in you, our Chief Executive, with our trust in God. (Presented by Jerry O. Gilliam, Norfolk, Va.)

Other resolutions were: That the convention authorize its officers to use their influence in urging the Post Office Department to maintain the position of chief clerk at large in the office of the second assistant Postmaster-General now held by Emory A. Bryant Jr., Washington, D. C.

To Jacksonville in 1935. That the convention favor the exclusive use of the fingerprint method of identification in the Civil Service (replacing the photograph.) That the officers of the convention be directed to seek appointment of a member of the Alliance in the inspection service of the Post Office Department.

That the convention go on record asking the Interior Department to

reappoint to some position Mrs. Thelma Gainey, widow of the late John D. Gainey. (Mrs. Gainey was one of several of those in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds to lose her position recently.)

That a Civil Service Court of Appeals be established to review all complaints independent of all previous litigations in the matter, the findings of such court to be final and conclusive.

Robert L. Bailey, Indianapolis, grand legal adviser, reported the successful filing of a plea in abatement in Indianapolis stopping G. N. T. Gray and others from taking action to enjoin the Whitney National Bank, of New Orleans, from paying funds to this convention of the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer revealed that the National Alliance of Postal Employees was in better financial condition than at any time since 1929, its total present worth being \$35,171.41.

The 1935 session of the convention will be in Jacksonville, Florida, which won out over invitations from Philadelphia and Houston, Texas.

Officers were installed by Alonzo L. Glenn of Cleveland, former president of the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

Mrs. A. W. Bryan of Atlanta was reelected president of the National Woman's Auxiliary which held sessions simultaneously with the National Alliance of Postal Employees.



## Congressional Appeal To Be Made To Save Engineering At Howard

CHICAGO—At the public meeting of the 5th annual convention of the National Technical Asso'n, Congressman Oscar DePriest, who was the guest speaker, made the statement that the trustee board of Howard University must not abolish the architectural and engineering departments of Howard University, of Washington, D. C. as that institution belongs to the nation.

It seems, in his opinion, that neither the president of the school nor the chairman of the trustee board has any interest in the education of the Negro technician. He further says that the trustee board of Howard University must give the representatives of the National Technical Association a hearing.

He pointed out the absurdity of attempting to save a paltry \$20,000 when the right of 12 million black citizens of the United States is denied for securing a technical education in a school operated by

people of their race and supported by congressional appropriations.

Congressman DePriest was especially indignant at the attitude of Abram Flexner, president of the Trustee Board of Howard University who presumed arbitrarily to speak for the 12 million Negro citizens relative to their need for technical training.

The fight to preserve the institution initiated by the Washington branch of the National Technical Association, was taken over by the national body and at its Fifth Annual Convention just concluded in Chicago. The national president Charles S. Dukes, appointed the necessary committee to carry on the fight.

The association has very active branches in Chicago, Ill.; Dayton, Ohio; Washington, D. C.; Detroit, Mich.; with an eastern, southern and central membership. Other branches are now being formed in New York City, Minneapolis, Minn.; Prairie View, Texas;

## H. U. OFFICIALS HIT BY DEPRIEST

CHICAGO, Ill. — At the public meeting of the Fifth Annual Convention of the National Technical Association, Congressman Oscar DePriest, guest speaker, made the statement that the trustee board of Howard University must not abolish the architectural and engineering departments of Howard University of Washington, D.C. as that institution belongs to the nation.

In his opinion, the Congressman said neither Dr. Mordecai Johnson of the school nor the chairman of the trustee board, Dr. Abraham Flexner, white, has any interest in the education of the Negro technician.

He added that the trustee board of Howard must give the representatives of the National Technical Association a hearing.

He pointed out the absurdity of attempting to save a paltry \$20,000 when the right of twelve million black citizens of the United States is denied for securing a technical education in a school operated by people of their race and supported by Congressional appropriations.